

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



REVISED

September 6, 2013

Advice Letter 4256-E

Brian K. Cherry
Vice President, Regulation and Rates
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10C
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94177

**Subject: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to GO 131-D, for the
Construction of the Caribou-Palermo 115 KV Power Line Repairs
in Butte and Plumas Counties**

Dear Mr. Cherry:

Advice Letters 4256-E is effective August 15, 2013.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward F. Randolph".

Edward F. Randolph, Director
Energy Division

July 16, 2013

Advice 4256-E

(Pacific Gas and Electric Company ID U39 E)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

Subject: Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, for the Construction of the Caribou-Palermo 115 KV Power Line Repairs in Butte and Plumas Counties

Pacific Gas and Electric Company ("PG&E" or "the Company") hereby submits notice pursuant to California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC" or "Commission") General Order (G.O.) 131-D, Section XI, Subsection B.4, of the construction of facilities that are exempt from a Permit to Construct.

Purpose

This advice letter provides a copy of the Notice of Proposed Construction (Attachment I) and the Notice Distribution List, which comply with the noticing requirements found in G.O. 131-D, Section XI.

Background

To repair damage caused by a winter storm event, PG&E proposes to replace six consecutive lattice-steel towers with new towers on the Caribou-Palermo 115 Kilovolt (kV) Power Line. Spanning the Plumas-Butte County border, the repair segment is located up slope and west of Highway 70 and generally parallel to the unpaved Pulga Road in a remote area of the Feather River Canyon within Plumas National Forest. Five towers collapsed and were removed on the power line in December 2012, and the line is currently supported on wood poles that PG&E installed to temporarily restore service. After transferring the line to the new towers, PG&E will either remove the wood poles or leave them in place for distribution use. To achieve appropriate ground clearances, the new H-frame towers will be approximately the same height or somewhat taller than the original towers (existing easement, replacement with equivalent structures), which vary in height due to the extreme topography. Replacement of conductors is not anticipated and there will be no increase in capacity. At another location approximately 8 miles further south on the same power line, PG&E will address a ground clearance issue by intersetting three new approximately 34- to 40-foot-tall

light-duty steel poles (one for each wire) midway between two existing lattice-steel towers (intersetting structures). The poles will be located down slope on the east side of Highway 70. Helicopters will be used to facilitate installation of all structures in both locations. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2013, or as soon as possible thereafter, with completion in winter of 2013, or as soon as possible after construction begins.

CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, Subsection B.1, exempts projects meeting specific conditions from the CPUC's requirement to file an application requesting authority to construct. The Company believes this project qualifies for the following exemption(s):

- b. the replacement of existing power line facilities or supporting structures with equivalent facilities or structures;
- c. the minor relocation of existing power line facilities up to 2,000 feet in length, or the intersetting of additional support structures between existing support structures; and
- g. power line facilities or substations to be located in an existing franchise, road-widening setback easement, or public utility easement; or in a utility corridor designated, precisely mapped and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies for which a final Negative Declaration or EIR finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts.

This filing will not increase any rate or charge, cause the withdrawal of service, or conflict with any other rate schedule or rule.

Protests

Anyone wishing to protest this filing may do so by letter sent via U.S. mail, by facsimile or electronically, any of which must be received no later than August 5, 2013, which is 20 days after the date of this filing. Protests should be mailed to:

CPUC Energy Division
ED Tariff Unit
505 Van Ness Avenue, 4th Floor
San Francisco, California 94102

Facsimile: (415) 703-2200
E-mail: EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

Copies of protests also should be mailed to the attention of the Director, Energy Division, Room 4004, at the address show above.

The protest also should be sent via U.S. mail (and by facsimile and electronically, if possible) to PG&E at the address shown below on the same date it is mailed or delivered to the Commission:

David T. Kraska
Attorney, Law Department
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
P.O. Box 7442
San Francisco, California 94120

Facsimile: (415) 973-0516

Brian K. Cherry
Vice President, Regulatory Relations
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
P.O. Box 770000, Mail Code B10C
San Francisco, California 94177

Facsimile: (415) 973-7226
E-Mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

Persons or groups may protest the proposed construction if they believe that the Company has incorrectly applied for an exemption or that the conditions set out in Section III.B.2 of G.O. 131-D exist.

Effective Date

PG&E requests that this advice filing become effective on August 15, 2013, which is 30 days after the date of filing. (In accordance with G.O. 131-D, construction will not begin until 45 days after notice is first published.)

Notice

A copy of this advice letter is being sent electronically and via U.S. Mail to parties shown on the attached list, including the parties listed in G.O. 131-D, Section XI, Paragraphs B.1 and B.2. These parties are identified in the "Notice Distribution List" included in Attachment I. All electronic approvals should be sent to e-mail PGETariffs@pge.com. Advice letter filings can also be accessed electronically at <http://www.pge.com/tariffs/>.

Handwritten signature of Brian Cherry in dark ink, with the letters "IG" written to the right of the signature.

Vice President – Regulatory Relations

cc: Parties Listed in G.O. 131-D, Paragraphs B.1 and B.2

Attachments

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

ADVICE LETTER FILING SUMMARY ENERGY UTILITY

MUST BE COMPLETED BY UTILITY (Attach additional pages as needed)

Company name/CPUC Utility No. **Pacific Gas and Electric Company (ID U39 E)**

Utility type:

☒ ELC

☐ GAS

☐ PLC

☐ HEAT

☐ WATER

Contact Person: Igor Grinberg

Phone #: 415-973-8580

E-mail: ixg8@pge.com and PGETariffs@pge.com

EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

ELC = Electric

GAS = Gas

☐

PLC = Pipeline

HEAT = Heat

WATER = Water

(Date Filed/ Received Stamp by CPUC)

Advice Letter (AL) #: **4256-E**

Tier: N/A

Subject of AL: **Submits Notice of Construction, Pursuant to General Order 131-D, for the Construction of the Caribou-Palermo 115 KV Power Line Repairs in Butte and Plumas Counties**

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Power Lines

AL filing type: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annual ☒ One-Time ☐ Other _____

If AL filed in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #: Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? If so, identify the prior AL: No

Summarize differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL: N/A

Is AL requesting confidential treatment? If so, what information is the utility seeking confidential treatment for: N/A

Confidential information will be made available to those who have executed a nondisclosure agreement: N/A

Name(s) and contact information of the person(s) who will provide the nondisclosure agreement and access to the confidential information: N/A

Resolution Required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Requested effective date: **August 15, 2013**

No. of tariff sheets: N/A

Estimated system annual revenue effect (%): N/A

Estimated system average rate effect (%): N/A

When rates are affected by AL, include attachment in AL showing average rate effects on customer classes (residential, small commercial, large C/I, agricultural, lighting).

Tariff schedules affected: N/A

Service affected and changes proposed: N/A

Protests, dispositions, and all other correspondence regarding this AL are due no later than 20 days after the date of this filing, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:

Director, Energy Division

California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue, Fourth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Attn: Brian K. Cherry, Vice President, Regulatory Relations
77 Beale Street, Mail Code B10C
P.O. Box 770000
San Francisco, CA 94177
E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION

PROJECT NAME: CARIBOU-PALERMO 115 KV POWER LINE REPAIRS (Butte and Plumas County)
ADVICE LETTER NUMBER: 4256-E

Proposed Project: To repair damage caused by a winter storm event, Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) proposes to replace six consecutive lattice-steel towers with new towers on the Caribou-Palermo 115 Kilovolt (kV) Power Line. Spanning the Plumas-Butte County border, the repair segment is located up slope and west of Highway 70 and generally parallel to the unpaved Pulga Road in a remote area of the Feather River Canyon within Plumas National Forest. Five towers collapsed and were removed on the power line in December 2012, and the line is currently supported on wood poles that PG&E installed to temporarily restore service. After transferring the line to the new towers, PG&E will either remove the wood poles or leave them in place for distribution use. To achieve appropriate ground clearances, the new H-frame towers will be approximately the same height or somewhat taller than the original towers (existing easement, replacement with equivalent structures), which vary in height due to the extreme topography. Replacement of conductors is not anticipated and there will be no increase in capacity. At another location approximately 8-miles further south on the same power line, PG&E will address a ground clearance issue by intersetting three new approximately 34- to 40-foot-tall light-duty steel poles (one for each wire) midway between two existing lattice-steel towers (intersetting structures). The poles will be located down slope on the east side of Highway 70. Helicopters will be used to facilitate installation of all structures in both locations. Construction is tentatively scheduled begin in the fall of 2013, or as soon as possible thereafter, with completion in winter of 2013, or as soon as possible after construction begins.

Exemption from CPUC Permit Requirement: CPUC General Order 131-D, Section III, B.1, exempts projects meeting specific conditions from the CPUC's requirement to file an application requesting authority to construct. PG&E believes this project qualifies for the following exemptions:

- b. the replacement of existing power line facilities or supporting structures with equivalent facilities or structures.
- c. the minor relocation of existing power line facilities up to 2,000 feet in length, or the intersetting of additional support structures between existing support structures.
- g. power line facilities or substations to be located in an existing franchise, road-widening setback easement, or public utility easement; or in a utility corridor designated, precisely mapped and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies for which a final Negative Declaration or EIR finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts.

Public Review Process: Persons or groups may protest the proposed construction if they believe that Pacific Gas and Electric Company has incorrectly applied for an exemption or that the conditions set out in Section III.B.2 of General Order 131-D exist;

- a. There is reasonable possibility that the activity may have an impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies; or
- b. The cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time, is significant; or
- c. There is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

Protests should include the following:

- 1. Your name, mailing address and daytime telephone number.
- 2. Reference to the CPUC Advice Letter Number and Project Name.
- 3. A clear description of the reason for the protest.
- 4. Whether you believe that evidentiary hearings are necessary to resolve factual disputes.

Protests for this project must be filed by August 5, 2013 at the following address:

Director, Energy Division
 California Public Utilities Commission
 505 Van Ness Avenue, Fourth Floor
 San Francisco, California 94102

With a copy mailed to:

David Kraska, Law Department
 Pacific Gas and Electric Company
 P.O. Box 7442
 San Francisco, California 94120

Pacific Gas and Electric Company must respond within five business days of receipt and serve copies of its response on each protestant and the Energy Division. Within 30 days after Pacific Gas and Electric Company has submitted its response, the Executive Director of the CPUC will send you a copy of an Executive Resolution granting or denying the request and stating the reasons for the decision.

Assistance in Filing a Protest: For assistance in filing a protest, contact the CPUC Public Advisor in San Francisco at (415) 703-2074 or 1-866-849-8390 (toll-free) or TTY (415) 703-5258 or public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov.

Additional Project Information: To obtain further information on the proposed project, please call Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Project Information Line at (415) 973-5530.

Notice Distribution List

CARIBOU-PALERMO 115 KV POWER LINE REPAIRS

Advice 4256-E

Energy Commission

Mr. Robert Oglesby, Executive Director
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39
Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Drew Bohan, Chief Deputy Director
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, Mail Stop 39
Sacramento, California 95814

California Department of Fish and Game

Ms. Sarah Bahm
Environmental Scientist
California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Central Region □
1234 E. Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region

Ms. Elizabeth M. Lee, P.E.
Supervisor
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Plumas National Forest

Ms. Karen Hayden
District Ranger
875 Mitchell Ave
Oroville, CA 95965

Butte County

Mr. Chuck Thistlethwaite, Planning Manager
7 County Drive
Oroville, CA 95965

Plumas County

Mr. Randy Wilson, Planning Director
555 Main Street
Quincy CA 95971

Newspaper

Oroville Mercury Register

**PG&E Gas and Electric
Advice Filing List**

1st Light Energy	Douglass & Liddell	OnGrid Solar
AT&T	Downey & Brand	Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Alcantar & Kahl LLP	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	Praxair
Anderson & Poole	G. A. Krause & Assoc.	Regulatory & Cogeneration Service, Inc.
BART	GenOn Energy Inc.	SCD Energy Solutions
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	GenOn Energy, Inc.	SCE
Bartle Wells Associates	Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Schlotz & Ritchie	SDG&E and SoCalGas
Bear Valley Electric Service	Green Power Institute	SPURR
Braun Blaising McLaughlin, P.C.	Hanna & Morton	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
CENERGY POWER	In House Energy	Seattle City Light
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Assn	International Power Technology	Sempra Utilities
California Energy Commission	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	SoCalGas
California Public Utilities Commission	Kelly Group	Southern California Edison Company
California State Association of Counties	Linde	Spark Energy
Calpine	Los Angeles Dept of Water & Power	Sun Light & Power
Casner, Steve	MAC Lighting Consulting	Sunshine Design
Center for Biological Diversity	MRW & Associates	Tecogen, Inc.
City of Palo Alto	Manatt Phelps Phillips	Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
City of San Jose	Marin Energy Authority	TransCanada
Clean Power	McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP	Utility Cost Management
Coast Economic Consulting	McKenzie & Associates	Utility Power Solutions
Commercial Energy	Modesto Irrigation District	Utility Specialists
County of Tehama - Department of Public Works	Morgan Stanley	Verizon
Crossborder Energy	NLine Energy, Inc.	Water and Energy Consulting
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	NRG Solar	Wellhead Electric Company
Day Carter Murphy	Nexant, Inc.	Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association (WMA)
Defense Energy Support Center	North America Power Partners	
Dept of General Services	Occidental Energy Marketing, Inc.	